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de oro
city of golden friendship



Republic of the Philippines
CITY OF CAGAYAN DE ORO
OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL
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ORDINANCE NO. 15079-2025

AN ORDINANCE CREATING THE CAGAYAN DE ORO GOLDEN JUSTICE ZONE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE SAID PURPOSE

Whereas, the 20th City Council during its 92nd Regular Session recently passed and approved an ordinance recognizing the need to uphold the rights of children as mandated by various laws, including Section 3(2), Article XV of the 1987 Philippine Constitution, Republic Act No. 7610 (Special Protection of Children Against Abuse, Exploitation, and Discrimination Act), Republic Act No. 11930 (Anti-Online Sexual Abuse or Exploitation of Children (OSAEC) and Anti-Child Sexual Abuse or Exploitation Material (CSAEM) Act), Republic Act No. 9208 (Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act of 2003) as amended by Republic Act No. 10364 (Expanded Anti-Trafficking Act of 2012), and Republic Act No. 11862 (Expanded Anti-Trafficking Act of 2022), which collectively aim to protect children from all forms of abuse, exploitation, and discrimination, and to localize efforts against such crimes;

Whereas, recognizing the increasing risks posed by the internet to children's safety, with 59% of Filipino children accessing the internet unsupervised and significant reports of online sexual abuse, the ordinance supports the need for enhanced local governance, educational programs, and community-based initiatives to combat online sexual abuse and exploitation, improve child protection, and strengthen the city's commitment to child-friendly governance in alignment with the goals outlined in the aforementioned laws;

Whereas, the Justice Sector Coordinating Council (JSSC), comprising the Supreme Court (SC), the Department of Justice (DOJ), and the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), was established to enhance coordination and collaboration among justice sector institutions and address issues affecting the justice system, with the flagship program being the Justice Zone (JZ);

Whereas, last August 7-8, 2024, the Justice Sector Coordinating Council (JSSC) conducted an orientation and consultation meeting and development planning workshop assessing the viability of making Cagayan de Oro City as a Justice Zone as the first one in the country focusing on Anti-online Sexual Abuse and Exploitation of Children (OSAEC) which two-day events were attended by the members of the local judiciary, law enforcement agency such as the NBI and the Philippine National Police, the DILG, the prosecutors from the Department of Justice, from the DSW, CSWD, and other stakeholders;

Whereas, last November 5 to 7, 2024, during the Planning Workshop for the Anti-Online Sexual Abuse or Exploitation of Children (OSAEC) Special Justice Zone in Cagayan de Oro City, participants from various justice sector agencies and stakeholders identified new focus areas—strengthening the delivery of justice at the barangay level, effective case management, addressing jail population concerns, victim protection and support, rehabilitation and reintegration of persons deprived of liberty, law enforcement, and the institutionalization of the Justice Zone—and emphasized that the Justice Zone should address not only OSAEC-related cases but also all forms of sexual abuse and exploitation of children as its overarching goal.

Whereas, a Justice Zone is designed to improve sector efficiency and accountability by promoting coordination among the five pillars of the criminal justice system—law enforcement, prosecution, the courts, corrections, and the community—to deliver swift and fair justice, with a specific focus on resolving problems related to online sexual abuse and exploitation of children (OSAEC) particularly in Cagayan de Oro City;

Whereas, the Philippine Development Plan (PDP) 2023-2028, under Chapter 13, emphasizes the importance of enhancing the administration of justice and institutionalizing Justice Zones across the country to address context-specific justice issues and generate effective, localized solutions;

Whereas, the City of Cagayan de Oro is envisioned to host the first-ever Special Justice Zone focusing on Anti-Online Sexual Abuse and Exploitation of Children, following the successful establishment of similar zones in other cities such as Quezon City, Cebu City, and Zamboanga City;



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Whereas, the Justice Zone will serve as a comprehensive approach to combat online sexual abuse and exploitation by implementing targeted prevention programs, improving coordination among justice sector agencies, and enhancing local governance to support and protect victims;

Whereas, under Section 16 of Republic Act No. 7160 (Local Government Code of 1991), local government units are empowered to exercise necessary and appropriate measures for effective governance and the promotion of the general welfare, including enhancing economic prosperity, social justice, and maintaining peace and order;

NOW, THEREFORE:

BE IT ORDAINED by the 20th City Council (Sangguniang Panlungsod) of Cagayan de Oro City in session duly assembled that:

SECTION 1. Title - This Ordinance shall be known as an "An Ordinance Adopting the Cagayan de Oro City Golden Justice Zone and Appropriating Funds for the said Purpose", to be known as the "**Golden Justice Zone Ordinance**".

SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy - As it envisioned to be a child-friendly city, it is hereby declared as a policy of Cagayan de Oro City for the formation of the Cagayan de Oro City Golden Justice Zone to address all forms of sexual abuse and exploitation of children including in particular the Online Sexual Abuse and Exploitation of Children (OSAEC) and to advance justice sector coordination of the Justice Sector Coordinating Council (JSCC), which includes the Supreme Court, the Department of Justice (DOJ), and the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG). The Justice Zone, as endorsed by the Philippine Development Plan (PDP) 2023-2028, is critical in improving sector efficiency and accountability by fostering collaboration among law enforcement, prosecution, courts, correctional facilities, and community services.

In adopting this policy, Cagayan de Oro City commits to making available its resources to support the JSCC's goal of delivering responsive and real-time justice. This includes the implementation of context-based solutions to justice issues, enhancing coordination among justice sector institutions, and providing technical assistance and equipment support. By establishing the Golden Justice Zone, the city aims to contribute to the broader objectives of justice system efficiency, effective resolution of justice issues, and the safeguarding of children from online and offline exploitation.

SECTION 3. Golden Justice Zone Executive Committee - The Golden Justice Zone shall be convened and led by an Executive Committee (EXECOM), consisting of one (1) Convenor and five (5) Co-Convenors.

The incumbent Executive Judge of the Regional Trial Court of Cagayan de Oro City shall serve as the Convenor. The City Government of Cagayan de Oro, along with the local offices of the Department of Justice (DOJ), the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), and the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), as well as the local trial courts in the city (Municipal Trial Court or Regional Trial Court), shall each nominate or assign one (1) Co-Convenor. The ExeCom shall oversee and coordinate the plans, initiatives, programs, projects, and activities of the Golden Justice Zone, ensuring alignment with the objectives and priorities of the Justice Sector Coordinating Council.

SECTION 4. Golden Justice Zone Secretariat - The Legislative Support Services Division of the City Council of Cagayan de Oro shall act as the Secretariat performing general administrative and day-to-day management of the ExeCom.

SECTION 5. Golden Justice Zone Technical Working Group - The Technical Working Group of the ExeCom shall be established to assist in conceptualizing and implementing plans, initiatives, programs, projects, and activities. The following specialized Technical Working Groups will be organized for this purpose:

1. Processes and Capacity Building;



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2. Evidence Management System;
3. Information Communication Technology and Infrastructure;
4. Sector-wide Planning and Budgeting;
5. Legislative Agenda and Policies;
6. Sector-wide Data Reconciliation, and
7. Communication and Partnership Building.

The ExeCom shall determine the membership of the above-mentioned Technical Working Groups (TWGs) and set their specific responsibilities and deliverables, keeping in mind that all members in the local justice sector should coordinate, communicate, and collaborate.

SECTION 6. High Priority Areas - Subject to amendment or modification which the Justice Sector Coordinating Council may issue, the Golden Justice Zone shall develop and implement plans, projects and programs that are focused on the following:

1. Institutionalization of the Golden Justice Zone
2. Strengthening the Delivery of Justice at the Barangay Level
3. Effective Case Management
4. Jail Population Concerns
5. Victim Protection and Support
6. Rehabilitation and Reintegration of Persons Deprived of Liberty, and
7. Law Enforcement

SECTION 7. Appropriation. – The Justice Zone Executive Committee (ExeCom) shall prepare and submit a proposed budget to the City Mayor for inclusion in the annual appropriations ordinance. The funds approved under this Ordinance shall be managed by the Office of the City Mayor. The ExeCom shall also submit an annual budget plan detailing projects, programs, activities, timelines, and estimated costs. At the end of each year, the ExeCom shall provide an accomplishment report to the City Mayor and the Sangguniang Panlungsod, summarizing the progress and use of the allocated funds.

SECTION 8. Interpretation And Application. - Nothing in this Ordinance shall be interpreted or applied to impair the independence of the Judiciary or to supplant the authority and mandate of any national government agency. In the event of a conflict between this Ordinance, on the one hand, and a national policy, law, regulation or issuance, on the other, the latter will prevail.

SECTION 9. Implementing Rules and Regulation - The City Legal Office and the Justice Sector Coordinating Council shall formulate the implementing rules and regulations within six (6) months upon the approval of this Ordinance.

SECTION 10. Separability Clause - If any provision or part of this Ordinance is held invalid or unconstitutional by a court of law, the remainder of this Ordinance or the provisions not otherwise affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

SECTION 13. Repealing Clause - All ordinances, resolutions, executive orders, memorandum circulars, administrative orders and other issuances or part thereof, which are inconsistent with or contrary to the provisions of this Ordinance, are hereby amended or repealed accordingly.

SECTION 10. Effectivity Clause. - This Ordinance shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following its full publication in a newspaper of general circulation and posting in three (3) conspicuous places in the City of Cagayan de Oro, in accordance with Article 114 of the implementing Rules and Regulations of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991.

UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

AUTHOR: CITY VICE MAYOR JOCELYN B. RODRIGUEZ
CO-AUTHOR: COUNCILOR JOYLEEN MERCEDES L. BALABA



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- Present:
- | | | |
|---------------------------|--|--|
| 1 st District: | - Councilor Agapito Eriberto G. Suan | - Councilor George S. Goking |
| | - Councilor Roger G. Abaday | - Councilor Jose Pepe S. Abbu, Jr. |
| | - Councilor Imee Rose P. Moreno | - Councilor Malvern A. Esparcia |
| | - Councilor Jay R. Pascual | |
| 2 nd District: | - Councilor Yevonna Yacine B. Emano | - Councilor James K. Judith II |
| | - Councilor Ian Mark O. Nacaya | - Councilor Christian Rustico M. Achas |
| | - Councilor Edgar S. Cabanlas | - Councilor Suzette G. Magtajas-Daba |
| | - Councilor Maria Lourdes S. Gaane | |
| Ex-Officio: | - Councilor Yan Lam S. Lim | - Councilor Datu Roberto P. Cabaring |
| | - City Vice Mayor Jocelyn B. Rodriguez | |
- On Official Business: - Councilor Kenneth John D. Sacala
- Absent: - Councilor Joyleen Mercedes L. Balaba

ENACTED this 24th day of March 2025 in the City of Cagayan de Oro.

I hereby certify to the correctness of the foregoing Ordinance.

ARTURO S. DE SAN MIGUEL
CITY COUNCIL SECRETARY

Attested as duly enacted:

ROMEO V. CALIZO
CITY COUNCILOR
PRESIDING OFFICER PRO TEMPORE

Approved:

ROLANDO A. UY
CITY MAYOR

Attested:

ATTY. ROY HILARIO P. RAAGAS
CITY ADMINISTRATOR

MINDANAO PHILIPPINES SUNDAY JOURNAL

187 F. Dabatian St. Carmen, Cagayan de Oro City

Cel. No. 0905-580-0080

Tel No. (088) 881-8314

Republic of the Philippines)
City of Cagayan de Oro)

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

I, BERNARDITA GADOT- BASAY, Publisher/Business Manager of MINDANAO PHILIPPINES SUNDAY JOURNAL, a weekly newspaper of general circulation un Cagayan de Oro City, Province of Misamis Oriental and in Mindanao, Philippines, after having duly sworn in accordance with law, hereby certify that;

Publication of:

ORDINANCE no. 15079-2025

an Ordinance CREATING THE CAGAYAN DE ORO GOLDEN JUSTICE ZONE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE SAID PURPOSE

A printed copy of which is hereby attached, has been published in MINDANAO PHILIPPINES SUNDAY JOURNAL issue/issues **3rd, wk of April, 2025**

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 21st day of April, 2025 Cagayan de Oro City.



BERNARDITA GADOT-BASAY

Affiant

TIN NO. – 940-768-487

SUBSCRIBED and sworn to before me this 21st day of April, 2025 in Cagayan de Oro City, affiant exhibiting his Senior Citizen ID No, 67035 issued at Cagayan de Oro City

Doc. No. 776
Page No. 68
Book No. 25
Series of 2025



ERNESTO B. NERI
Notary Public
UNTIL DECEMBER 31, 2026
Tiano-Gomez St., Cagayan de Oro City
MCLE COMPLIANCE No. VIII-0000586
PTR 6163309-A-12-03-24 CDO
IBP 472344-10-19-24 P.S. CR.
TIN 473-519-439; NC 2325-25
ROLL NO. 66879 05-23-17



Republic of the Philippines
CITY OF CAGAYAN DE ORO
OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Introduced by Vice Mayor Jocelyn B. Rodriguez

A PROPOSED
ORDINANCE CREATING THE CAGAYAN DE ORO GOLDEN JUSTICE
ZONE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE SAID PURPOSE

WHEREAS, the 20th City Council during its 92nd Regular Session recently passed and approved an ordinance recognizing the need to uphold the rights of children as mandated by various laws, including Section 3(2), Article XV of the 1987 Philippine Constitution, Republic Act No. 7610 (Special Protection of Children Against Abuse, Exploitation, and Discrimination Act), Republic Act No. 11930 (Anti-Online Sexual Abuse or Exploitation of Children (OSAEC) and Anti-Child Sexual Abuse or Exploitation Material (CSAEM) Act), Republic Act No. 9208 (Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act of 2003) as amended by Republic Act No. 10364 (Expanded Anti-Trafficking Act of 2012), and Republic Act No. 11862 (Expanded Anti-Trafficking Act of 2022), which collectively aim to protect children from all forms of abuse, exploitation, and discrimination, and to localize efforts against such crimes;

WHEREAS, recognizing the increasing risks posed by the internet to children's safety, with 59% of Filipino children accessing the internet unsupervised and significant reports of online sexual abuse, the ordinance supports the need for enhanced local governance, educational programs, and community-based initiatives to combat online sexual abuse and exploitation, improve child protection, and strengthen the city's commitment to child-friendly governance in alignment with the goals outlined in the aforementioned laws;

WHEREAS, the Justice Sector Coordinating Council (JSCC), comprising the Supreme Court (SC), the Department of Justice (DOJ), and the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), was established to enhance coordination and collaboration among justice sector institutions and address issues affecting the justice system, with the flagship program being the Justice Zone (JZ);

WHEREAS, last August 7-8, 2024, the Justice Sector Coordinating Council (JSSC) conducted an orientation and consultation meeting and development planning workshop assessing the viability of making Cagayan de Oro City as a Justice Zone as the first one in the country focusing on Anti-online Sexual Abuse and Exploitation of Children (OSAEC) which two-day events were attended by the members of the local judiciary, law enforcement agency such as the NBI and the Philippine National Police, the DILG, the prosecutors from the Department of Justice, from the DSW, CSWD, and other stakeholders;

WHEREAS, a Justice Zone is designed to improve sector efficiency and accountability by promoting coordination among the five pillars of the criminal justice system—law enforcement, prosecution, the courts, corrections, and the community—to deliver swift and fair justice, with a specific focus on resolving problems related to online sexual abuse and exploitation of children (OSAEC) particularly in Cagayan de Oro City;

WHEREAS, the Philippine Development Plan (PDP) 2023-2028, under Chapter 13, emphasizes the importance of enhancing the administration of justice and institutionalizing Justice Zones across the country to address context-specific justice issues and generate effective, localized solutions;

WHEREAS, the City of Cagayan de Oro is envisioned to host the first-ever Special Justice Zone focusing on Anti-Online Sexual Abuse and Exploitation of Children, following the successful establishment of similar zones in other cities such as Quezon City, Cebu City, and Zamboanga City;

WHEREAS, the Justice Zone will serve as a comprehensive approach to combat online sexual abuse and exploitation by implementing targeted prevention programs, improving coordination among justice sector agencies, and enhancing local governance to support and protect victims;

WHEREAS, under Section 16 of Republic Act No. 7160 (Local Government Code of 1991), local government units are empowered to exercise necessary and appropriate measures for effective governance and the promotion of the general welfare, including enhancing economic prosperity, social justice, and maintaining peace and order;

WHEREFORE, On motion of Vice Mayor Jocelyn B. Rodriguez, it was,

RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that the City Council of Cagayan de Oro adopts *“An Ordinance Adopting the Cagayan De Oro City Golden Justice Zone and Appropriating Funds for the said Purpose*, to be known as the *“Golden Justice Zone Ordinance”*.

FURTHER RESOLVED, this ordinance establishes the Cagayan de Oro City Golden Justice Zone as a strategic initiative aimed at combating Online Sexual Abuse and Exploitation of Children (OSAEC) by building on the successful model of the Justice Sector Coordinating Council (JSCC) and its flagship Justice Zones facilitating enhanced coordination among justice sector institutions, including local government units, to address the growing threat of online exploitation.

FINALLY RESOLVED, the ordinance ensures the allocation of necessary funds to support the implementation of comprehensive preventive and intervention programs, thereby strengthening the city's commitment to child protection and justice sector efficiency.

Be it enacted by the Sangguniang Panlungsod of Cagayan de Oro City

SECTION 1. TITLE - This Ordinance shall be known as an *“An Ordinance Adopting the Cagayan De Oro City Golden Justice Zone and Appropriating Funds for the said Purpose”*, to be known as the *“Golden Justice Zone Ordinance”*.

SECTION 2. DECLARATION OF POLICY - As it envisioned to be a child-friendly city, it is hereby declared as a policy of Cagayan de Oro City for the formation of the Cagayan de Oro City Golden Justice Zone to address Online Sexual Abuse and Exploitation of Children (OSAEC) and to advance justice sector coordination of the Justice Sector Coordinating Council (JSCC), which includes the Supreme Court, the Department of Justice (DOJ), and the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG). The Justice Zone, as endorsed by the Philippine Development Plan (PDP) 2023-2028, is critical in improving sector efficiency and accountability by fostering collaboration among law enforcement, prosecution, courts, correctional facilities, and community services.

In adopting this policy, Cagayan de Oro City commits to making available its resources to support the JSCC's goal of delivering responsive and real-time justice. This includes the implementation of context-based solutions to justice issues, enhancing coordination among justice sector institutions, and providing technical assistance and equipment support.

By establishing the Golden Justice Zone, the city aims to contribute to the broader objectives of justice system efficiency, effective resolution of justice issues, and the safeguarding of children from online and offline exploitation.

SECTION 3. GOLDEN JUSTICE ZONE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- The Golden Justice Zone shall be convened and led by an Executive Committee (EXECOM), consisting of one (1) Convenor and five (5) Co-Convenors.

The incumbent Executive Judge of the Regional Trial Court of Cagayan de Oro City shall serve as the Convenor. The City Government of Cagayan de Oro, along with the local offices of the Department of Justice (DOJ), the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), and the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), as well as the local trial courts in the city (Municipal Trial Court or Regional Trial Court), shall each nominate or assign one (1) Co-Convenor. The ExeCom shall oversee and coordinate the plans, initiatives, programs, projects, and activities of the Golden Justice Zone, ensuring alignment with the objectives and priorities of the Justice Sector Coordinating Council.

SECTION 4. GOLDEN JUSTICE ZONE SECRETARIAT - The Legislative Support Services Division of the City Council of Cagayan de Oro shall act as the Secretariat performing general administrative and day-to-day management of the ExeCom.

SECTION 5. GOLDEN JUSTICE ZONE TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP - The Technical Working Group of the ExeCom shall be established to assist in conceptualizing and implementing plans, initiatives, programs, projects, and activities. The following specialized Technical Working Groups will be organized for this purpose:

1. Processes and Capacity Building;
2. Evidence Management System;
3. Information Communication Technology and Infrastructure;
4. Sector-wide Planning and Budgeting;
5. Legislative Agenda and Policies;
6. Sector-wide Data Reconciliation, and
7. Communication and Partnership Building.

The ExeCom shall determine the membership of the above-mentioned Technical Working Groups (TWGs) and set their specific responsibilities and deliverables, keeping in mind that all members in the local justice sector should coordinate, communicate, and collaborate.

SECTION 6. HIGH PRIORITY AREAS - Subject to amendments or modification which the Justice Sector Coordinating Council may issue, the Golden Justice Zone shall develop and implement plans, projects and programs that are focused on the following:

1. Institutionalization of the Golden Justice Zone
2. Anti Online Sexual Abuse and Exploitation of Children
3. Jail Decongestion
4. Strengthening of the Barangay Justice System
5. Community-based Rehabilitation and Reintegration of Persons Deprived of Liberty

SECTION 7. APPROPRIATION - There is hereby appropriated the amount of Five Million (PhP5,000,000.00) Pesos for the initial implementation of this Ordinance for the year 2025, subject to compliance with budgeting, accounting, and auditing procedures. This allocation shall be made in the annual appropriations ordinance. The funds appropriated under this Ordinance shall be administered and managed by the Office of the City Mayor. The Justice Zone ExeCom shall submit to the City Mayor an annual budget proposal detailing the projects, programs, and activities to be undertaken, along with their timelines and estimated costs. At the conclusion of the first year of implementation, and every year thereafter, the Justice Zone Executive Committee shall submit an accomplishment report to the City Mayor and the Sangguniang Panlungsod.

SECTION 8. INTERPRETATION AND APPLICATION. Nothing in this Ordinance shall be interpreted or applied to impair the independence of the Judiciary or to supplant the authority and mandate of any national government agency. In the event of a conflict between this Ordinance, on the one hand, and a national policy, law, regulation or issuance, on the other, the latter will prevail.

SECTION 9. IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATION - The City Legal Office and the Justice Sector Coordinating Council shall formulate the implementing rules and regulations within six (6) months upon the approval of this Ordinance.

SECTION 10. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE - If any provision or part of this Ordinance is held invalid or unconstitutional by a court of law, the remainder of this Ordinance or the provisions not otherwise affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

SECTION 13. REPEALING CLAUSE - All ordinances, resolutions, executive orders, memorandum circulars, administrative orders and other issuances or part thereof, which are inconsistent with or contrary to the provisions of this Ordinance, are hereby amended or repealed accordingly.

SECTION 10. EFFECTIVITY CLAUSE. This Ordinance shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its full publication in a newspaper of general circulation, if possible, or posting in three conspicuous places in the City of Cagayan de Oro, in accordance with Article 114 of the implementing Rules and Regulations of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991.

HON. JOCELYN B. RODRIGUEZ
City Vice Mayor